



TOWN OF BROOKLINE
Department of Public Health

11 Pierce Street
Brookline, MA 02445
617-730-2300
www.brooklinema.gov/health

Patrick Maloney, MPAH, CHO
Assistant Director of Public Health
Chief of Environmental Health

Request Permit for Keeping of Animals – Chickens – Bees, in the Town of Brookline

To have a Keeping of Animals Permit in the Town of Brookline, you must fill out the application and return to the Brookline Health Department, 11 Pierce Street, Brookline, MA 02445.

In additional to a Building Department sign off, all new permit applications must submit a plot plan showing locations of animal housing environments, other structures on proposed property and property lines. In addition a sanitation and operational safety plan for keeping of applicable animals must also be submitted.

New Permit applications are subject to a Public Hearing. Abutters and Town Meeting Representatives will be notified of the hearing date and time.

KEEPING OF ANIMALS APPLICATION (New Fee \$60.00) (Renewal \$25.00)

Name of Applicant _____

Name of Lot Owner (if different than Applicant) _____

Address of Applicant _____

Telephone of Applicant _____

(Home)

(Office/ Cell)

Email Address _____

Location of the Premises Where Animal(s) to be Kept

Species of Animal(s) to be Kept _____

Breed of Animal(s) to be Kept _____

Number of Animal(s) to be Kept _____

Name and Address of Principal Veterinarian for Each Animal

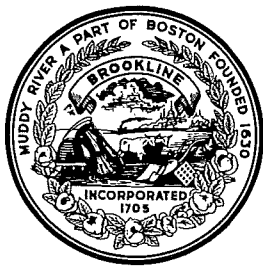
Any new Animal(s) require an applicant to make application for a modification of said permit with the Health Department.

I, _____, have read and understand the contents and requirements of this application packet, and agree to the provisions in the Brookline Keeping of Animals Regulation.

Date: _____, 20__

Application Checklist

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1) Plot Plan | _____ |
| 2) Pest Management Plan | _____ |
| 3) Manure Management Plan | _____ |
| 4) Emergency Disaster Plan | _____ |
| 5) Zoning Board Approval | _____ |
| 6) Building Department Approval | _____ |
| 7) Abutter Notification (completed by Health Department) | _____ |
| 8) Any Additional Requirements for Specific Species (Poultry, Bees, Pigeons, Horses, Swine) | _____ |
| 8) Permit Application Fee | _____ |



TOWN OF BROOKLINE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

11 Pierce Street, Brookline, Massachusetts, 02445
Telephone: (617) 730-2300 Facsimile: (617) 730-2296
E-mail: www.townofbrooklinemass.com/health

Alan Balsam, Ph.D., MPH
Director of Public Health
and Human Services

To: Dan Bennett
Commissioner of Buildings

DATE:

From: Patrick Maloney
Chief of Environmental Health

Re: Keeping of Animals Permit Approval

(Beet's)

Please be advised that this Department has a pending application for a Keeping of Animals Permit at:

Address of premises: _____

Type of Animal(s): _____

The application is from:
Occupant of Record: _____ Phone# _____

To process this application the Health Department requires a sign off by the Building Department. This sign off will insure the Health Department that there is no conflict with the Town Zoning By-Law.

Please, check, sign and date the appropriate box below so we may process the application.

-
- ☐ The Building Department has **no objection** to the Health Department issuing a Keeping of Animals Permit to the address noted below. The application complies with the Town Zoning By-Laws.
- ☐ The Building Department **cannot recommend** the Health Department issue a Keeping of Animals Permit to the address noted below. The application does not comply with Town Zoning By-Laws.

Date _____

Building Department _____
Representative

Property Location _____

pdn/pat/environmental/Animals/BuldSignOff

Town of Brookline Requirements For the Keeping of Animals and Bee's

Town of Brookline Public Health Department and Building Department (zoning regulations) have regulations and standards for the Keeping of Animals and Bee's in the town. These standards are designed to address Health, Safety and adopted Community Standard in the community. Applications in residential areas of the town have specific concerns.

- Applications are obtained from the Public Health Department
 - Applications requires sign of from Building Department (form provided by Health Department)
 - Application includes Plot Plan (to scale)
 - Pest Management Plan
 - Manure Management Plan
 - Emergency Disaster Plan
 - Building Department Approval
 - Zoning Board Approval (if applicable)
 - Abutter Notifications – for Public Hearing (completed by Health Department)
 - Any Additional Requirements for Specific Species (Poultry, Bees, Pigeons, Horses, Swine etc)
 - Permit Application Fee (fee rate pending)
-

Examples of conditions established for permit issuance:

Chickens:

- Limit of 12 chickens. (no roosters).
- An enclosed pod and pen for chickens must be constructed as outlined in submitted plans. Penned area may be chicken wire. The Penned area must be covered over the top. Chickens will be restricted to the pod and enclosed pen at all times.
- Feeding of birds shall occur only in the pod and pen. Manure must be cleaned up regularly and composted in an approved composting environment or otherwise disposed of in a sanitary manner. If disposed of offsite department must approve of location.
- Maintain good hygiene practices after contact with chickens.
- Report sick chickens to Brookline Health Department (617-730-2300) and Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture Division of Animal Health (617-626-1792) immediately. Report any animal attacks on chickens to Brookline Health Department.
- The pest control management plan must be submitted as a permit condition.
- As part of the Keeping of Animals permit the Health Department will perform routine, unannounced inspections to ensure compliance with these permit conditions.

Bees:

- The beehive structure must comply with all applicable zoning bylaw requirements.
- Parcel is limited to 2 beehives. Bees must be maintained in moveable-frame hives situated at least 4 inches off the ground to allow ventilation, limit pests, and reduce bottom entrance obstructions. The entrance of the beehive must be oriented to face the opposite direction of the nearest abutting property.
- Only non-aggressive honeybee (*Apis Mellifera*) species are permitted.
- A constant and adequate water source must be provided on site at all times. The water source should be drained and refilled periodically to prevent mosquito larvae growth and nuisance conditions.
- In the event of nuisance complaints regarding low flight paths of bees through abutting properties, the property owner is advised to install a reasonable physical structure to influence the bees to take a higher flight path as they enter and exit the beehives.
- Hives must be registered with Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. Beekeeping operations must comply with all applicable regulations, inspections, and permitting standards as required by state law.
- The primary beekeeper must demonstrate to the Director of Public Health completion of a beekeeper training course with the Norfolk County Beekeeping Association or another training resource approved by the Director. Membership and active participation with the Norfolk County Beekeeping Association is recommended.
- If the property owner also serves as the primary beekeeper, an equally qualified beekeeper must be designated to maintain hive operations and respond to all nuisance complaints and other emergencies during any periods of extended absence or vacation by the property owner.
- An operations and emergency plan must be submitted to the Director that describes in detail:
 - a. Physical set-up and location of hives.
 - b. Routine hive maintenance and integrated pest management (IPM) procedures.
 - c. Corrective actions to be taken under potential nuisance conditions resulting from aggressive or objectionable bee behavior.
 - d. Planned response to possible acute damage to hive and swarm suppression measures. Contact information for qualified personnel to be contacted to assist during swarming and emergency scenarios must be included.
- The Brookline Health Department may reasonably conduct unannounced inspections of beekeeping facilities to ensure compliance with the aforementioned conditions and respond to any nuisance complaints.
- Must be willing to comply with any future regulations promulgated by the town of Brookline as they relate to the keeping of bees.
- It is recommended that the applicant update their homeowner's insurance policy to cover beekeeping activities.

Bees are regulated by zoning:

ZONING BY-LAW

ARTICLE IV, USE REGULATIONS

s 4.07 (57)

57. The keeping of horses, cows, goats, or other similar animals, other than pigs, or the keeping of poultry, pigeons, rabbits, or other similar birds or animals, or the keeping of bees, provided that no stable or enclosure for any animal may be less than 100 feet from any existing residence building on other premises in any district, or any obvious residence building site on other premises in an S, SC, T, F or M District; and provided that no stable or enclosure for more than four animals may be less than 100 feet from any premises occupied by a church, school, playground, library, or building of a public or eleemosynary institution, except where that distance is intersected by a street at least 60 feet wide; and further provided that no stable or enclosure in a S, SC, T, F or M District may be less than 100 feet from a street, nor contain more than 25 animals on the premises, **and subject to such restrictions as to number, and as to location and size of special structures and enclosures, as may be imposed by the Director of Public Health of the Town of Brookline.**